(c) if so, the steps taken to curb such unlawful activities of the insurgents apart from finding out permanent solution of insurgency?

THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI L.K. ADVANI): (a) and (b) Instances of the Naga underground outfits, including the NSCN (I/M) with whom the Government of India has entered into a cease-fire agreement, indulging in forcible extortion under the garb of "tax collection by the so called Government of the People's Republic of Nagaland" have come to notice of the Central Government.

(c) Instructions have issued to the State Government to deal firmly with such situation in accordance with the law of the land. NSCB (I/M) have also been warned that such extorition is against the Agreed Ground Rules for cease-fire and that continuation of such practices may seriously jeopardise the cease-fire agreement and invite appropriate response from the security forces.

Government of Nagaland has also been advised to draw up a proper Security Plan for Dimapur to curb such unlawful activities.

Overcrowding in State Run Jails

812. SHRI O.P. KOHLI: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that National Human Rights Commission (NHRC) investigation has revealed a serious problem of overcrowding in State run jails which often result in untimely deaths due to lack of proper medical attention; and

(b) if so, what steps Government propose to take to decongest the state-run Jails in the country and to provide adequate and timely medical attention to the Jail inmates?

THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI L. K. ADVANI): (a) and (b) Some States reported to have been facing the problem of overcrowding in their jails. However, there is no material with the National Human Rights Commission to conclude that overcrowding often results un untimely deaths. Since 'Prisen' is a State subject as per Entry 4, List-II (State List) of the Seventh Schedule to the Constitution, it is primarily for the State Governments to deal with any matter relating to the administration of prisons according to their rules, regulations, and Jail Manuals. The Government of India, however, provides financial assistance under the Scheme of Modernisation of Prison Administration to supplement the efforts of the State Governments in improving prison infrastructure and living conditions of prisoners and to provide medical facilities in Jails. besides, the Tenth Finance Commission has also recommended financial assistance to the State Governments for repair and renovation of old prison buildings and for providing medical facilities in Jails.

Tourists Cheated By Touts

813.SHRI GURUDAS DAS GUPTA:
SHRI JALALUDIN ANSARI:

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government's attention has been drawn to a news-item appearing in the Express Newline Page of Indian Express, dated the 24th February, 1998 under the caption 'Terrified tourist taken for a ride by touts';

(b) if so, whether it is a fact that the cheated tourists have filed an FIR at the Connaught Place Police Station on 6th February;

(c) if so, the details and the action taken, if any, to book the culprists; and

(d) the steps being taken to ensure that the tourists arriving at airports and railway stations are not cheated by unscrupulous touts, taxi drivers, travel agents, etc.?

THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI L.K. ADVANI): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) On the basis of complain filed by Ms. Monika of USA on 6.2.98, a case FIR No. 169/98 was registered on 24.2.98 u/s 418/384/341/34 IPC at Police Station Connaught Place, New Delhi. During the investigations, four accused persons were arrested and charge-sheet against them has been filed in the Court. One accused is still absconding. Non-Bailable warrant against him has been obtained from the Court.

(d) In order to ensure that tourists are not cheated by taxi dirvers/touts/unscrupulous persons, the following steps have been taken by the Delhi Police:

(i) Anti-touting staff has been deployed in all the parking lots and near pre-paid taxi booths;

(ii) Traffic staff as well as local police keep constant watch at pre-paid taxi booths and check reliability certificate at the time a foreign tourist leaves the airport by a taxi. The practice of recording the address/destination of the foreign tourists at the back side of the pre-paid slips has been introduced.

(iii) All taxis are again checked at the exit pickets and necessary entries regarding pre-paid slip and destination are made in the register being maintained there for the purpose.

(iv) ACPs/SHOs at Indira Gandhi International Airport and Palam Airport taken round at vulnerable points during peak hours.

(v) Closer vigil is being kept on violation of rules by the Hotels and Guest Houses.

(vi) The concerned staff posted at the Airport has been briefed time and again to curb touting menace. During the years 1997 and 1998 (upto 15.5.98), a large number of touts were rounded up and vehicles impounded. The details are as under:

Year	Number of touts arrested	Number of vehicles impounded
1997	630	151
1998 (upto 15.5.98)	757	407

Construction of Ram Temple

814. SHRI GURUDAS DAS GUPTA:
SHRI GAYA SINGH:
SHRI S.M. KRISHNA:

Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that parts of a Ram Temple are being constructed at Ayodhya and Pindwara in Rajasthan which will be assembled at the Janambhoomi site in Ayodhya by Kar Sevaks by the end of the century;

(b) Whether Government's attention has been drawn to a news-item appearing in the Indian Express, New Delhi edition, dated the 12th May, 1998 in this regard; and

(c) if so, the details of Government's reaction thereto?

THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI L.K. ADVANI): (a) No such construction activity is going on at the disputed Ram Janma Bhoomi-Babri masjid site at Ayodhya. However, from various sources reports have been received that some cutting and carving of stone pillars are going on at places away from the disputed site at Ayodhya and at some villages in Rajasthan.

(b) Yes Sir.

(c) Carving of stones away from the disputed Ram Janma Bhomi-Babri Masjid site at Ayodhya does not constitute violation of any law. However, in compliance with the Supreme Court's judgement dated 24.10.94, status-quo is being maintained at the disputed site at Ayodhya.

Babri Masjid Demolition Case

815. SHRI NILOTPAL BASU: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are considering to delink the people who are charge-sheeted in the demolition of Babri Masjid from criminal charges; and

(b) if so, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI L.K. ADVANI): There is no such proposal under consideration.

(b) Does not arise.

Police Officials Grilled by Delhi Court

816. SHRI O.P. KOHLI: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that a Delhi Court grilled two police officials for falsely implicating an innocent persons under the Delhi Police Act as has been brought out in the news-item appearing in the Hindustan Times, dated the 11th February, 1998; and

(b) if so, what action Government propose